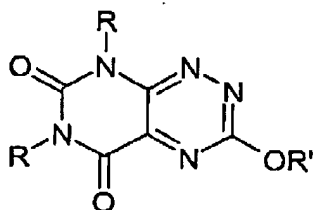
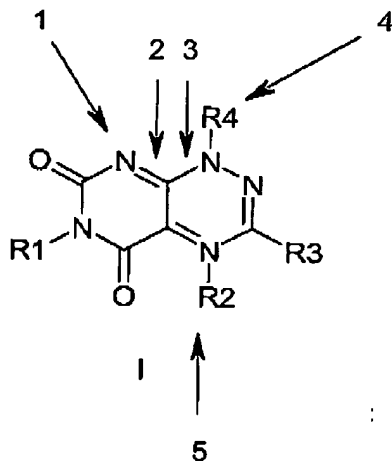


The Pallen compounds denoted herein as "I/II" and "I/IV" have three carbonyl groups present in the markush structures above. In comparison, Applicant's compounds have only two carbonyl groups and Pallen does not teach or suggest an equivalence between a carbonyl group and the groups defined by the variable R<sub>3</sub> in Applicant's Formula I. Therefore, Applicant asserts that Pallen compounds "I/II" and "I/IV" are patentably distinct from Applicant's compounds. Furthermore, Applicant asserts that the Pallen compound denoted herein as "I/III" and Applicant's compounds are also patentably distinct based upon several structural differences shown below.

Pallen compounds:



Applicant's compounds:



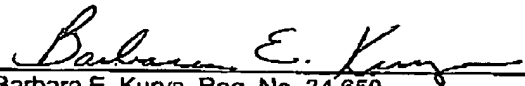
There are 5 differences in the structure (see arrows 1 to 5):

- 1) Applicant's compounds do not have a substituent R in this position (not even hydrogen).
- 2) Applicant's compounds have a double bond in this position. The Pallen compounds have a single bond.
- 3) Applicant's compounds have a single bond in this position. The Pallen compounds have a double bond.
- 4) Applicant's compounds have a substituent R4 in this position. The Pallen compounds have no substituent here (not even hydrogen).
- 5) Applicant's compounds have substituent R2 in this position. The Pallen compounds have no substituent here (not even hydrogen).

#### Conclusion

In view of the arguments presented herein, Applicant asserts that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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